TRAFFIC COMMISSION REPORT November 18, 2010

Item VE

TRAFFIC CONTROL PLANS FOR CONSTRUCTION ZONES

ISSUE:

The Traffic Commission requested information on Traffic Control in construction zones. Concern was raised regarding the traffic control set ups around the city and their maintenance

BACKGROUND:

The California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (California MUTCD) is published by the State of California Department of Transportation and was created to adopt uniform standards and specifications for all official traffic control devices. The California MUTCD, California Sign Specifications and other publications and related current information is available on the Caltrans Internet website at: http://www.dot.ca.gov/hg/traffops/signtech/mutcdsupp/.

The California MUTCD is the standard for all official traffic control devices, under Section 11340.9(h) of California Government Code and Section 21400 of the California Vehicle Code (CVC). In all cases involving new highway or bikeway construction or reconstruction, the traffic control devices installed (temporary or permanent) must be in conformance with the current edition of the California MUTCD before that highway is opened or re-opened to the public for unrestricted travel pursuant to the California Vehicle Code 21401.

The newest version of the California MUTCD is currently finishing public review prior to being formally adopted by the State, and adoption is expected in early 2011. Section 6 of this manual covers "Temporary Traffic Control." Attachment 1 shows the approved signs for use in construction and work areas.

DISCUSSION:

All city and private construction projects in the public right of way are required to have a permit from Public Works "Permit Engineering" to allow the contractor to work. As part of the permit process, the applicant is required to have an insurance bond covering the cost of construction, a traffic control plan, and pay fees for processing and for city inspection time. Since the MUTCD has sections on how to set up traffic control in typical construction zones, a city traffic engineer determines during the permit process if the MUTCD is a sufficient guideline, or if the applicant should prepare a traffic control plan specific for the project site.

Attachments 2 through 5 are samples of recently approved traffic control plans in the city. The hours and days the work can be done (weekdays vs. weekends) are also determined by the traffic department. After the permit is issued, the applicant is

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required to contact the city two days prior to beginning construction for appropriate inspection, during which the inspector must review and approve the traffic control set up.

Occasionally, traffic department staff receives calls from the project inspector or the Police Department if they have concerns and questions regarding the traffic control set up, its efficiency, or any changes which may be required in the field. The MUTCD prohibits use of any signs that are not needed in the working zone, and also requires signs be removed at the end of each day if they do not apply to the area at that time.

CONCLUSIONS:

Public Works already has policies in place to follow the California MUTCD sign guidelines in construction zones.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Receive and file.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1- MUTCD, Traffic Control signs

Attachment 2- Sample TCP

Attachment 3- Sample TCP

Attachment 4- Sample TCP

California Sign Chart

California Department of Transportation Signs and Work Zones Branch

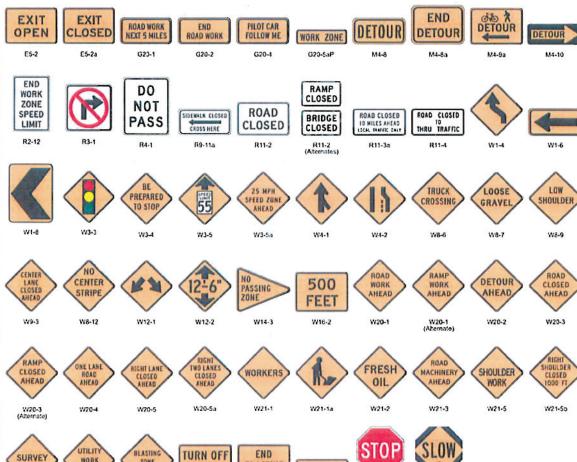


Sheet 11 of 12 - Federal Temporary Traffic Control Signs

This chart contains commonly used signs in California, and is not meant to be used as a comprehensive sign chart.

California codes are designated by (CA). Otherwise Federal codes are shown. For a complete directory of signs, visit www.det.ca.gev/hq/traffops/signtech/signdet/index.htm.





















California Sign Chart

Sheet 12 of 12 - California Temporary Traffic Control Signs

California Department of Transportation Signs and Work Zones Branch January 2010



This chart contains commonly used signs in California, and is not meant to be used as a comprehensive sign chart.

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ROAD WORK SPEED LIMIT 25 END SPEED LIMIT



LEFT C20A (CA)









1500 FT



C12 (CA)

G17 (CA)

Back C17 (CA)

C20 (CA)

2 C20B (CA)

C238 (CA)

C24 (CA)

C27 (CA)

C29 (CA)























C30 (CA)

C30A (CA)

C31A (CA)

C37 (CA)

C37 (CA)

C38 (CA)

C40 (CA)

C40A (CA)

C43 (CA)

DETOUR



RAMP CLOSED

CLOSED WON JAN JI THORU FRI JAN JI 1 AL - 3 JE

MON JAN















SC3 (CA)

SC5 (CA)

SC6-3 (CA)

5C6-4 (CA)

SC6A (CA)

SCEB (CA)

SC7 (CA)

SCB (CA)

SC10 (CA) SC9 (CA)







CAUTION





THE CONE ZONE







SCH (CA)

SC13 (CA)

SC15 (CA)

SC18 (CA)

SC19 (CA)

SC20 (CA)

SC21(CA)



Type R (CA)

Type P (CA)

Type N (CA)



Type II Barricage



Cone, Tubular Marker, Charroeliter



